



2152  
#3/A  
PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7937.0002-07

2-3-01  
4/L.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
John KEANE et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/832,346 ) Group Art Unit: 2152  
Filed: April 11, 2001 ) Examiner: Unknown  
For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR )  
ENABLING COMMUNICATION )  
BETWEEN A PROCESSOR AND )  
A NETWORK OPERATIONS )  
CENTER )

RECEIVED  
JUN 21 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application  
as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, please replace the first paragraph with the following:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/196,297, entitled "NETWORK ARCHITECTURE, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS," filed on April 12, 2000, the disclosure of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/814,178, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING AND CONFIGURING VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS," filed March 22, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002, which

AI  
CmtX

LAW OFFICES

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,  
FARABOW, GARRETT,  
& DUNNER, L.L.P.  
1300 I STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
202-408-4000